

Highland Families,

Covid 19....

Since the last update the Omicron variant has surfaced. There are a lot of things about this variant that nobody knows. Early data suggest that it is more transmissible than the previous strains and that the symptoms are less severe. We will not be changing our position on masking. However, we will be reducing the quarantine period for those who have contracted Covid-19 and those who are directly exposed and unable to isolate from 10 days to 5 days. Please continue to communicate with our Director of Nursing, Mrs. Pettit to sort out the details if you are impacted.

High School Time Change

When we start back to school on January 4th, the high school will be operating on a different schedule. School will start at 8:00 a.m. lunch will go from 12:24 to 1:04 p.m., and the academic day will end at 3:30p.m... The purpose of the change is to create a study period for students with poor grades. Hopefully the H.S. families received communication about this change and it will not impact our bus times.

Academics

This stretch of the school year provides an opportunity for solid academic growth. We have completed the winter Maps assessment which will provide information about growth from the beginning to the middle of the year. A new semester and a new year are also an appropriate time to implement new routines for homework and set academic goals. Grades are important but more important is growth. Try to establish goals that focus on improvement and effort and the grades will generally tag along.

Snow Days

Now that we know it can snow in Northern Colorado, I should remind you of our school closure procedures. We start driving the roads at approximately 4:30 a.m. and decide no later than 6:00 a.m. whether to cancel or have school. If our buses are able to safely travel the routes, we have school. In rare circumstances we will have school even if some bus routes are unable to pick up students. Often there can be a big difference in weather between Ault and the Wyoming state line. However, the decision to place a student on the bus belongs to the parent. If you don't feel comfortable sending your student, simply call the school office to notify them. If we cancel school, an Infinite Campus message will be sent, a notice will be posted on our website as well as the district Face-book page. We try to notify television and radio outlets, but their coverage is sporadic at best.